CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and

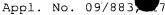listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended):   A method of transmitting data

between devices interconnected via a bus, which comprises:

transmitting, in units, data and information, concerning at

least one of a transmission and a use of the data, from a

first device to one or more second devices to which the data

does not concern, and/or one or more third devices, to which

the data does concern together with information concerning at

least one of a transmission and a use of the data;

forming the units at least partly with at least one region

defining a given time slot within which the second and/or

third devices transmitting no data can output onto the bus

data representing specific information; and

defining, in the second and third devices, enabled for

outputting data within the given time slot, settings selected

from the group consisting of a setting to determine under

which conditions information and/or data are to be output

within the given time slot, a setting to determine which

information and/or data ~~representing information~~ are to be output within the given time slot, and a setting to determine at which points in time within the time slot the information and/or data are to be output.

Claim 2 (original): The method according to claim 1, which comprises determining the settings relating to the given time slot before a start of the transmission of the unit containing the given time slot.

Claim 3 (original): The method according to claim 1, which comprises determining the settings relating to the given time slot with one or more of the devices connected to the bus.

Claim 4 (original): The method according to claim 1, which comprises determining the settings relating to the given time slot based on one of data and instructions transmitted to the respective devices via the bus.

Claim 5 (original): The method according to claim 1, which comprises determining the settings relating to the given time slot upon initializing the devices.

Claim 6 (original):   The method according to claim 1, wherein the settings relating to the given time slot are variable settings.

Claim 7 (original):   The method according to claim 1, which comprises storing the settings relating to the given time slot in nonvolatile memory devices.

Claim 8 (original):   The method according to claim 1, wherein the units for transmitting the data and the information concerning the transmission or the use of the data are frames.

Claim 9 (original):   The method according to claim 1, wherein the units for transmitting the data and the information concerning the transmission or the use of the data are messages.

Claim 10 (original):   The method according to claim 1, wherein the units in which the data to be transmitted are transmitted together with the information which is required or useful for the transmission and/or the use of the data is transmitted in each case serially via the bus at a specific transmission clock rate.
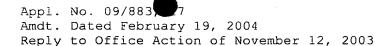
Claim 11 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, which comprises determining with the data and information contained in the units containing the data ~~to be transmitted together with~~ and information required or useful for the transmission or the use of the data, whether certain devices output information onto the bus and at which points in time.

Claim 12 (original): The method according to claim 11, which comprises determining with the data and information contained in the units which devices output information onto the bus.

Claim 13 (original): The method according to claim 1, which comprises defining the given time slot for transmission of one or more bits via the bus.

Claim 14 (original): The method according to claim 1, wherein the data to be output onto the bus during the given time slot comprise a positive acknowledge bit indicating that the device outputting the acknowledge bit onto the bus has previously received in a fault-free condition data transmitted via the bus.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The method according to claim 14, wherein the one or more second and/or third devices which are connected to the bus are set in such a way that

exclusively, the one or more third devices, for which the data transmitted via the bus are intended, acknowledge the fault-free reception of the data by outputting a positive acknowledge bit onto the bus.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The method according to claim 14, wherein, if a plurality of the devices connected to the bus are set in such a way that they have to acknowledge the fault-free reception of the data by outputting a positive acknowledge bit, the plurality of devices are [[is]] set such that the positive acknowledge bits which are to be output if appropriate are output by the plurality of devices at different points in time.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The method according to claim 15, wherein the devices connected to the bus are set such that the one or more second devices, for which the data transmitted via the bus is not intended, do not output any data onto the bus at least at the points in time at which the one or more third devices, for which the data transmitted via the bus is intended, must be able to acknowledge the fault-free reception of the data.

Claim 18 (original): The method according to claim 1, wherein the data to be output onto the bus during the given

time slot comprise a negative acknowledge bit indicating that

the device outputting the negative acknowledge bit onto the

bus has previously not received in a fault-free condition

data transmitted via the bus.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The method according to

claim 18, wherein the devices connected to the bus are set

such that exclusively, the one or more third devices, for

which the data transmitted via the bus is intended, ~~to~~ signal

a non-fault-free reception of the data by outputting a

negative acknowledge bit onto the bus.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The method according to

claim 18, wherein if a plurality of the devices connected to

the bus are set such that they have to signal the non-fault-

free reception of the data by outputting a negative

acknowledge bit, at least some of the plurality of the

devices are set such that they output at the same time the

negative acknowledge bits that are to be output if at least

some of the plurality of devices receive non-fault-free data

~~appropriate~~.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The method according to claim

18, wherein the devices connected to the bus are set such

that the at least one second device, ~~devices~~ for which the

data transmitted via the bus is not intended, [[do]] does not

output any data onto the bus at least at the points in time

at which the at least one third device, ~~devices~~ for which the

data transmitted via the bus is intended, must be able to

signal the non-fault-free reception of the data.

Claim 22 (original): The method according to claim 1,

wherein the devices connected to the bus are set such that

individual devices, a plurality of devices, or all the

devices connected to the bus output a positive acknowledge

bit onto the bus at different points in time within the given

time slot if the devices have received in a fault-free

condition data previously transmitted via the bus, or they

output a negative acknowledge bit if the opposite is the

case, in each case at other, different points in time within

the given time slot.

Claim 23 (original): The method according to claim 1,

wherein the devices connected to the bus are set such that a

content of the current frame or of a specific preceding frame

or the content of the current message or of a specific

preceding message determines which of the devices has to

output which information onto the bus at which point in time.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A method of transmitting data between devices interconnected via a bus, which comprises:

transmitting, in units, data and information, concerning at least one of a transmission and a use of the data, from a first device to one or more second devices, to which the data is not intended, and/or one or more third devices, to which the data is intended ~~together with information concerning at least one of a transmission and a use of the data~~;

forming the units at least partly with at least one region defining a given time slot within which the one or more second and/or third devices ~~transmitting no data~~ can output onto the bus ~~data representing specific~~ information and/or data; and

defining, at least in specific devices, settings selected from the group consisting of a setting to determine which other devices have to output information and/or data within the given time slot, a setting to determine which information and/or data ~~representing information~~ are to be output within the given time slot by the other devices, and a setting to determine at which points in time within the given time slot the other devices have to output the respective information and/or data.

Claim 25 (original): The method according to claim 24, which comprises determining the settings relating to the given time slot before a start of the transmission of the unit containing the given time slot.

Claim 26 (original): The method according to claim 24, which comprises determining the settings relating to the given time slot with one or more of the devices connected to the bus.

Claim 27 (original): The method according to claim 24, which comprises determining the settings relating to the given time slot based on one of data and instructions transmitted to the respective devices via the bus.

Claim 28 (original): The method according to claim 24, which comprises determining the settings relating to the given time slot upon initializing the devices.

Claim 29 (original): The method according to claim 24, wherein the settings relating to the given time slot are variable settings.

Claim 30 (original): The method according to claim 24, which comprises storing the settings relating to the given time slot in nonvolatile memory devices.

Claim 31 (original): The method according to claim 24, wherein the units for transmitting the data and the information concerning the transmission or the use of the data are frames.

Claim 32 (original): The method according to claim 24, wherein the units for transmitting the data and the information concerning the transmission or the use of the data are messages.

Claim 33 (original): The method according to claim 24, wherein the units in which the data to be transmitted are transmitted together with the information which is required or useful for the transmission and/or the use of the data is transmitted in each case serially via the bus at a specific transmission clock rate.

Claim 34 (currently amended): The method according to claim 24, which comprises determining with the data and information contained in the units containing the data ~~to be transmitted together with~~ and information required or useful for the transmission or the use of the data, whether certain devices output information onto the bus and at which points in time.
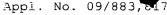
Claim 35 (original): The method according to claim 34, which comprises determining with the data and information contained in the units which devices output information onto the bus.

Claim 36 (original): The method according to claim 24, which comprises defining the given time slot for transmission of one or more bits via the bus.

Claim 37 (original): The method according to claim 24, wherein the data to be output onto the bus during the given time slot comprise a positive acknowledge bit indicating that the device outputting the acknowledge bit onto the bus has previously received in a fault-free condition data transmitted via the bus.

Claim 38 (original): The method according to claim 37, wherein the devices which are connected to the bus are set in such a way that exclusively devices for which the data transmitted via the bus are intended acknowledge the fault-free reception of the data by outputting a positive acknowledge bit onto the bus.

Claim 39 (currently amended): The method according to claim 37, wherein, if a plurality of the devices connected to the bus are set in such a way that they have to acknowledge the
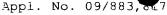
fault-free reception of the data by outputting a positive

acknowledge bit, the plurality of devices are [[is]] set such

that the positive acknowledge bits, which are to be output if

at least some of the plurality of devices receive fault-free

data, appropriate are output by the plurality of devices at

different points in time.

Claim 40 (currently amended): The method according to claim

38, wherein the devices connected to the bus are set such

that the one or more second devices, for which the data

transmitted via the bus is not intended, do not output any

data onto the bus at least at the points in time at which the

one or more third devices, for which the data transmitted via

the bus is intended, must be able to acknowledge the fault-

free reception of the data.

Claim 41 (original): The method according to claim 24,

wherein the data to be output onto the bus during the given

time slot comprise a negative acknowledge bit indicating that

the device outputting the negative acknowledge bit onto the

bus has previously not received in a fault-free condition

data transmitted via the bus.

Claim 42 (currently amended): The method according to claim

41, wherein the devices connected to the bus are set such

that exclusively, the one or more third devices, for which
the data transmitted via the bus is intended, ~~to~~ signal a
non-fault-free reception of the data by outputting a negative
acknowledge bit onto the bus.

Claim 43 (currently amended): The method according to claim
41, wherein if a plurality of the devices connected to the
bus are set such that they have to signal the non-fault-free
reception of the data by outputting a negative acknowledge
bit, at least some of the plurality of the devices are set
such that they output at the same time the negative
acknowledge bits that are to be output if at least some of
the plurality of devices receive non-fault-free data
~~appropriate~~.

Claim 44 (currently amended): The method according to claim
41, wherein the devices connected to the bus are set such
that the at least one second device, ~~devices~~ for which the
data transmitted via the bus is not intended, [[do]] does not
output any data onto the bus at least at the points in time
at which the at least one third device, ~~devices~~ for which the
data transmitted via the bus is intended, must be able to
signal the non-fault-free reception of the data.

Claim 45 (original): The method according to claim 24, wherein the devices connected to the bus are set such that individual devices, a plurality of devices, or all the devices connected to the bus output a positive acknowledge bit onto the bus at different points in time within the given time slot if the devices have received in a fault-free condition data previously transmitted via the bus, or they output a negative acknowledge bit if the opposite is the case, in each case at other, different points in time within the given time slot.

Claim 46 (original): The method according to claim 24, wherein the devices connected to the bus are set such that a content of the current frame or of a specific preceding frame or the content of the current message or of a specific preceding message determines which of the devices has to output which information onto the bus at which point in time.

Claim 47 (currently amended): A device for connection to other devices via a bus, comprising means for transmitting data together with information concerning one of a transmission and a use of the data in units, wherein at least some of the units are formed with at least one region defining a time slot within which the device can output onto the bus <u>information and/or</u> data ~~representing specific~~
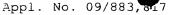
~~information~~, and wherein the device contains settings

selected from the group consisting of a setting determining

under which conditions the device has to output <u>information</u>

<u>and/or</u> data within the time slot, a setting determining which

<u>information and/or</u> data ~~representing information~~ the device

has to output within the time slot, and a setting determining

at which points in time within the time slot the <u>information</u>

<u>and/or</u> data is to be output.

Claim 48 (currently amended): The <u>device</u> ~~method~~ according to

claim 47, which <u>further</u> comprises <u>means for</u> determining the

settings relating to the given time slot before a start of

the transmission of the unit containing the time slot.

Claim 49 (currently amended): The <u>device</u> ~~method~~ according to

claim 47, which <u>further</u> comprises <u>means for</u> determining the

settings relating to the time slot with one or more of the

devices connected to the bus.

Claim 50 (currently amended): The <u>device</u> ~~method~~ according to

claim 47, which <u>further</u> comprises <u>means for</u> determining the

settings relating to the time slot based on one of data and

instructions transmitted to the respective devices via the

bus.

Claim 51 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to claim 47, which further comprises means for determining the settings relating to the time slot upon initializing the devices.

Claim 52 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to claim 47, wherein the settings relating to the time slot are variable settings.

Claim 53 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to claim 47, which further comprises nonvolatile memory areas for storing the settings relating to the time slot ~~in nonvolatile memory devices~~.

Claim 54 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to claim 47, wherein the units for transmitting the data and the information concerning the transmission or the use of the data are frames.

Claim 55 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to claim 47, wherein the units for transmitting the data and the information concerning the transmission or the use of the data are messages.

Claim 56 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to

claim 47, wherein the units in which the data to be

transmitted is transmitted, together with the information

which is required or useful for the transmission and/or the

use of the data, are [[is]] transmitted in each case serially

via the bus at a specific transmission clock rate.

Claim 57 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to

claim 47, wherein the data and information contained in the

units containing the data ~~to be transmitted together with~~ and

information required or useful for the transmission or the

use of the data determine whether certain devices output

information onto the bus and at which points in time.

Claim 58 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to

claim 57, wherein the data and information contained in the

units further determine which devices output information onto

the bus.

Claim 59 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to

claim 47, wherein the time slot is defined for transmission

of one or more bits via the bus.

Claim 60 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to

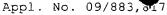claim 47, wherein the data ~~to be~~ output onto the bus during

the time slot comprises a positive acknowledge bit indicating

that the device outputting the acknowledge bit onto the bus

has previously received in a fault-free condition data

transmitted via the bus.

Claim 61 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to

claim 60, wherein the means for transmitting data together

with information further comprises the data being intended

for one or more specific other devices which are connected to

the bus, and the other devices ~~which are connected to the bus~~

are set in such a way that exclusively, the other devices for

which the data transmitted via the bus are intended,

acknowledge the fault-free reception of the data by

outputting a positive acknowledge bit onto the bus.

Claim 62 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to

claim 60, wherein if a plurality of the devices connected to

the bus are set in such a way that they have to acknowledge

the fault-free reception of the data by outputting a positive

acknowledge bit, the means for transmitting data together

with information further comprises the plurality of devices

being [[is]] set such that the positive acknowledge bits,

which are to be output if a plurality of the devices receive

fault-free data, ~~appropriate~~ are output by the plurality of
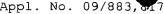
devices at different points in time.

Claim 63 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to claim 61, wherein the means for transmitting data together with information, further comprises the other devices connected to the bus being ~~are~~ set such that any of the other devices for which the data transmitted via the bus are [[is]] not intended do not output any data onto the bus at least at the points in time at which the devices for which the data transmitted via the bus is intended must be able to acknowledge the fault-free reception of the data.

Claim 64 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to claim 47, wherein the data to be output onto the bus during the time slot comprise a negative acknowledge bit indicating that the device outputting the negative acknowledge bit onto the bus has previously not received in a fault-free condition data transmitted via the bus.

Claim 65 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to claim 64, wherein the means for transmitting data together with information, further comprises the other devices connected to the bus being [[are]] set such that exclusively, other devices for which the data transmitted via the bus is intended, ~~to~~ signal a non-fault-free reception of the data by outputting a negative acknowledge bit onto the bus.

Claim 66 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to claim 64, wherein if a plurality of the devices connected to the bus are set such that they have to signal the non-fault-free reception of the data by outputting a negative acknowledge bit, the means for transmitting data together with information further comprises at least some of the plurality of the devices being [[are]] set such that they output at the same time the negative acknowledge bits that are to be output if at least some of the plurality of devices receive non-fault-free data ~~appropriate~~.

Claim 67 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to claim 64, wherein the means for transmitting data together with information further comprises the other devices connected to the bus being ~~are~~ set such that the other devices for which the data transmitted via the bus is not intended do not output any data onto the bus at least at the points in time at which the other devices for which the data transmitted via the bus is intended must be able to signal the non-fault-free reception of the data.

Claim 68 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to claim 47, wherein the means for transmitting data together with information further comprises ~~the~~ devices connected to

the bus being ~~are~~ set such that individual devices, a plurality of devices, or all the devices connected to the bus output a positive acknowledge bit onto the bus at different points in time within the time slot if the devices have received in a fault-free condition data previously transmitted via the bus, or they output a negative acknowledge bit if the opposite is the case, in each case at other, different points in time within the time slot.

Claim 69 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to claim 47, wherein the means for transmitting data together with information further comprises the devices connected to the bus being ~~are~~ set such that a content of the current frame or of a specific preceding frame or the content of the current message or of a specific preceding message determines which of the devices has to output which information onto the bus at which point in time.

Claim 70 (currently amended): A device for connection to other devices via a bus, comprising means for transmitting data together with information concerning one of a transmission and a use of the data in units, wherein at least some of the units are formed with at least one region defining a time slot within which one or a plurality of other devices can output onto the bus information and/or data
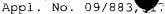
~~representing specific information~~, and wherein the device
contains settings selected from the group consisting of a
setting determining which other devices output <u>information</u>
<u>and/or</u> data within the time slot, a setting determining which
<u>information and/or</u> data ~~representing information~~ has to be
output within the time slot by the other devices, and a
setting determining at which points in time within the time
slot the other devices have to output the respective
<u>information and/or</u> data.

Claim 71 (currently amended): The <u>device</u> ~~method~~ according to
claim 70, <u>wherein the means for transmitting data together</u>
<u>with information further</u> ~~which~~ comprises determining the
settings relating to the given time slot before a start of
the transmission of the unit containing the time slot.

Claim 72 (currently amended): The <u>device</u> ~~method~~ according to
claim 70, <u>wherein the means for transmitting data together</u>
<u>with information further</u> ~~which~~ comprises determining the
settings relating to the time slot with one or more of the
devices connected to the bus.

Claim 73 (currently amended): The <u>device</u> ~~method~~ according to
claim 70, <u>wherein the means for transmitting data together</u>
<u>with information further</u> ~~which~~ comprises determining the

settings relating to the time slot based on one of data and

instructions transmitted to the respective devices via the

bus.

Claim 74 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to

claim 70, <u>wherein the means for transmitting data together

with information further</u> ~~which~~ comprises determining the

settings relating to the time slot upon initializing the

devices.

Claim 75 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to

claim 70, wherein the settings relating to the time slot are

variable settings.

Claim 76 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to

claim 70, <u>wherein the means for transmitting data together

with information further</u> ~~which~~ comprises storing the settings

relating to the time slot in nonvolatile memory devices.

Claim 77 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to

claim 70, wherein the units for transmitting the data and the

information concerning the transmission or the use of the

data are frames.

Claim 78 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to claim 70, wherein the units for transmitting the data and the information concerning the transmission or the use of the data are messages.

Claim 79 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to claim 70, wherein <u>the means for transmitting data together with information further comprises</u> the units in which the data to be transmitted is transmitted together with the information which is required or useful for the transmission and/or the use of the data is transmitted in each case serially via the bus at a specific transmission clock rate.

Claim 80 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to claim 70, wherein the data and information contained in the units containing the data ~~to be transmitted together with~~ <u>and</u> information required or useful for the transmission or the use of the data<u>,</u> determine whether certain devices output information onto the bus <u>and</u> at which points in time.

Claim 81 (currently amended): The device ~~method~~ according to claim 80, wherein <u>the means for transmitting data together with information further comprises</u> the data and information contained in the units further ~~determine~~ <u>determining</u> which devices output information onto the bus.

Claim 82 (currently amended): The <u>device</u> ~~method~~ according to claim 70, wherein <u>the means for transmitting data together with information further comprises</u> the time slot [[is]] <u>being</u> defined for transmission of one or more bits via the bus.

Claim 83 (currently amended): The <u>device</u> ~~method~~ according to claim 70, wherein the data to be output onto the bus during the time slot comprises a positive acknowledge bit indicating that the device outputting the acknowledge bit onto the bus has previously received in a fault-free condition data transmitted via the bus.

Claim 84 (currently amended): The <u>device</u> ~~method~~ according to claim 83, wherein <u>the means for transmitting data together with information further comprises the data being intended for one or more specific other devices which are connected to the bus, and</u> the <u>other</u> devices which are connected to the bus are set in such a way that exclusively<u>,</u> <u>the other</u> devices for which the data transmitted via the bus are intended<u>,</u> acknowledge the fault-free reception of the data by outputting a positive acknowledge bit onto the bus.

Claim 85 (currently amended): The <u>device</u> ~~method~~ according to claim 83, wherein, if a plurality of the devices connected to

the bus are set in such a way that they have to acknowledge
the fault-free reception of the data by outputting a positive
acknowledge bit, the means for transmitting data together
with information further comprises the plurality of devices
being [[is]] set such that the positive acknowledge bits
which are to be output if appropriate are output by the
plurality of devices at different points in time.

Claim 86 (currently amended): The device method according to
claim 84, wherein the means for transmitting data together
with information, further comprises the devices connected to
the bus being [[are]] set such that the other devices for
which the data transmitted via the bus are [[is]] not
intended do not output any data onto the bus at least at the
points in time at which the devices for which the data
transmitted via the bus is intended must be able to
acknowledge the fault-free reception of the data.

Claim 87 (currently amended): The device method according to
claim 70, wherein the data to be output onto the bus during
the time slot comprise a negative acknowledge bit indicating
that the device outputting the negative acknowledge bit onto
the bus has previously not received in a fault-free condition
data transmitted via the bus.

Claim 88 (currently amended): The <u>device</u> ~~method~~ according to claim 87, wherein <u>the means for transmitting data together with information, further comprises</u> the <u>other</u> devices connected to the bus <u>being</u> [[are]] set such that exclusively<u>,</u> <u>other</u> devices for which the data transmitted via the bus is intended<u>,</u> ~~to~~ signal a non-fault-free reception of the data by outputting a negative acknowledge bit onto the bus.

Claim 89 (currently amended): The <u>device</u> ~~method~~ according to claim 87, wherein if a plurality of the devices connected to the bus are set such that they have to signal the non-fault-free reception of the data by outputting a negative acknowledge bit, <u>the means for transmitting data together with information further comprises</u> at least some of the plurality of the devices <u>being</u> [[are]] set such that they output at the same time the negative acknowledge bits that are to be output if <u>at least some of the plurality of devices receive non-fault-free data</u> ~~appropriate~~.

Claim 90 (currently amended): The <u>device</u> ~~method~~ according to claim 87, wherein <u>the means for transmitting data together with information further comprises</u> the <u>other</u> devices connected to the bus <u>being</u> ~~are~~ set such that the <u>other</u> devices for which the data transmitted via the bus is not intended do not output any data onto the bus at least at the

points in time at which the <u>other</u> devices for which the data

transmitted via the bus is intended must be able to signal

the non-fault-free reception of the data.

Claim 91 (currently amended): The <u>device</u> ~~method~~ according to

claim 70, wherein <u>the means for transmitting data together</u>

<u>with information further comprises</u> the devices connected to

the bus <u>being</u> ~~are~~ set such that individual devices, a

plurality of devices, or all the devices connected to the bus

output a positive acknowledge bit onto the bus at different

points in time within the time slot if the devices have

received in a fault-free condition data previously

transmitted via the bus, or they output a negative

acknowledge bit if the opposite is the case, in each case at

other, different points in time within the time slot.

Claim 92 (currently amended): The <u>device</u> ~~method~~ according to

claim 70, wherein <u>the means for transmitting data together</u>

<u>with information further comprises</u> the <u>other</u> devices

connected to the bus <u>being</u> ~~are~~ set such that a content of the

current frame or of a specific preceding frame or the content

of the current message or of a specific preceding message

determines which of the <u>other</u> devices has to output which

information onto the bus at which point in time.